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TM
DAREDEVIL®
THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!
... AND HE CRIES...
"FATHER!"

He dwells in eternal night—but the blackness is filled with sounds and scents other men cannot perceive. Though attorney MATT MURDOCK is *blind*, his other senses function with *superhuman sharpness*—his *radar sense* guides him over every obstacle! He stalks the streets by night, a red-garbed foe of evil!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: DAREDEVIL, THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!®

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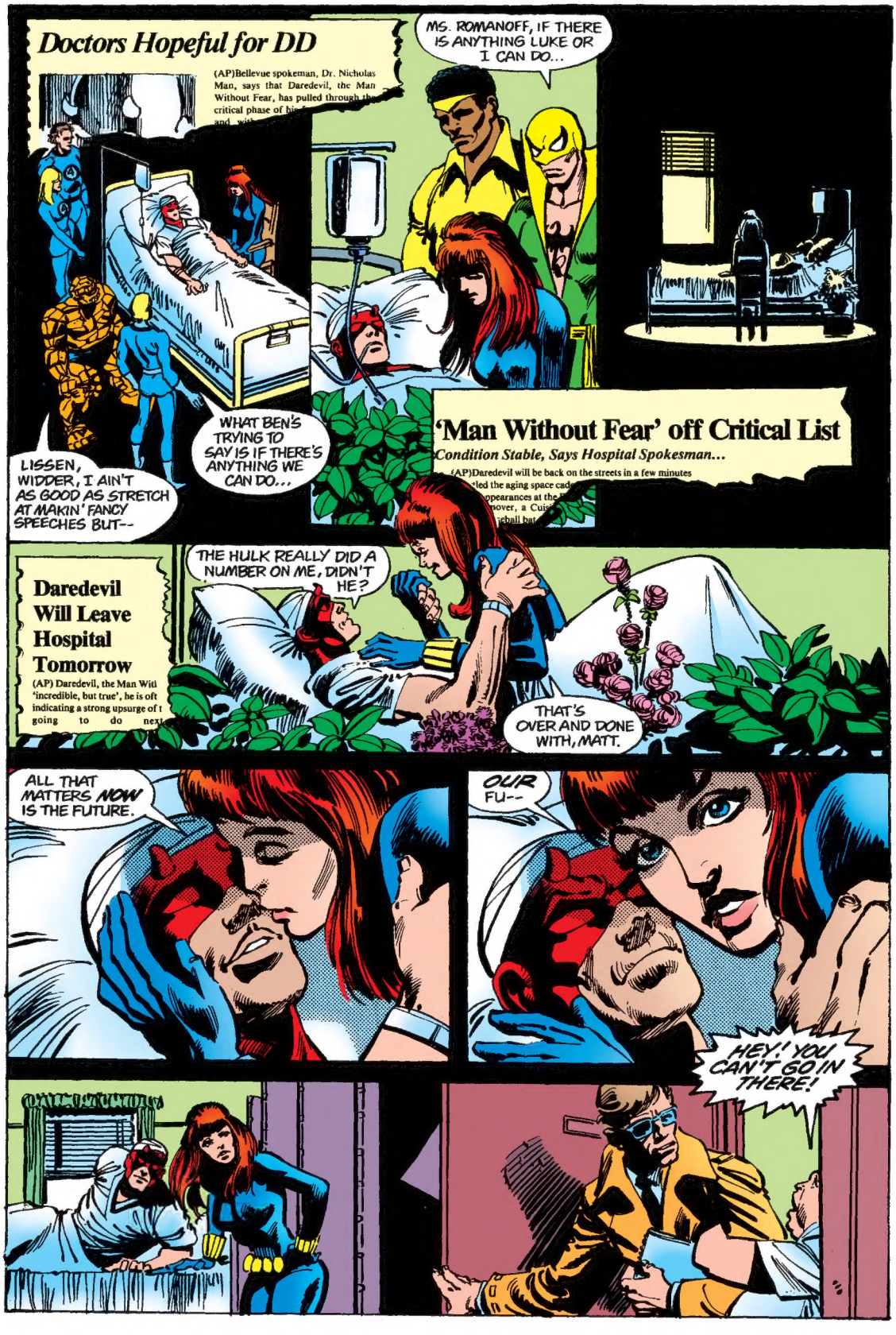
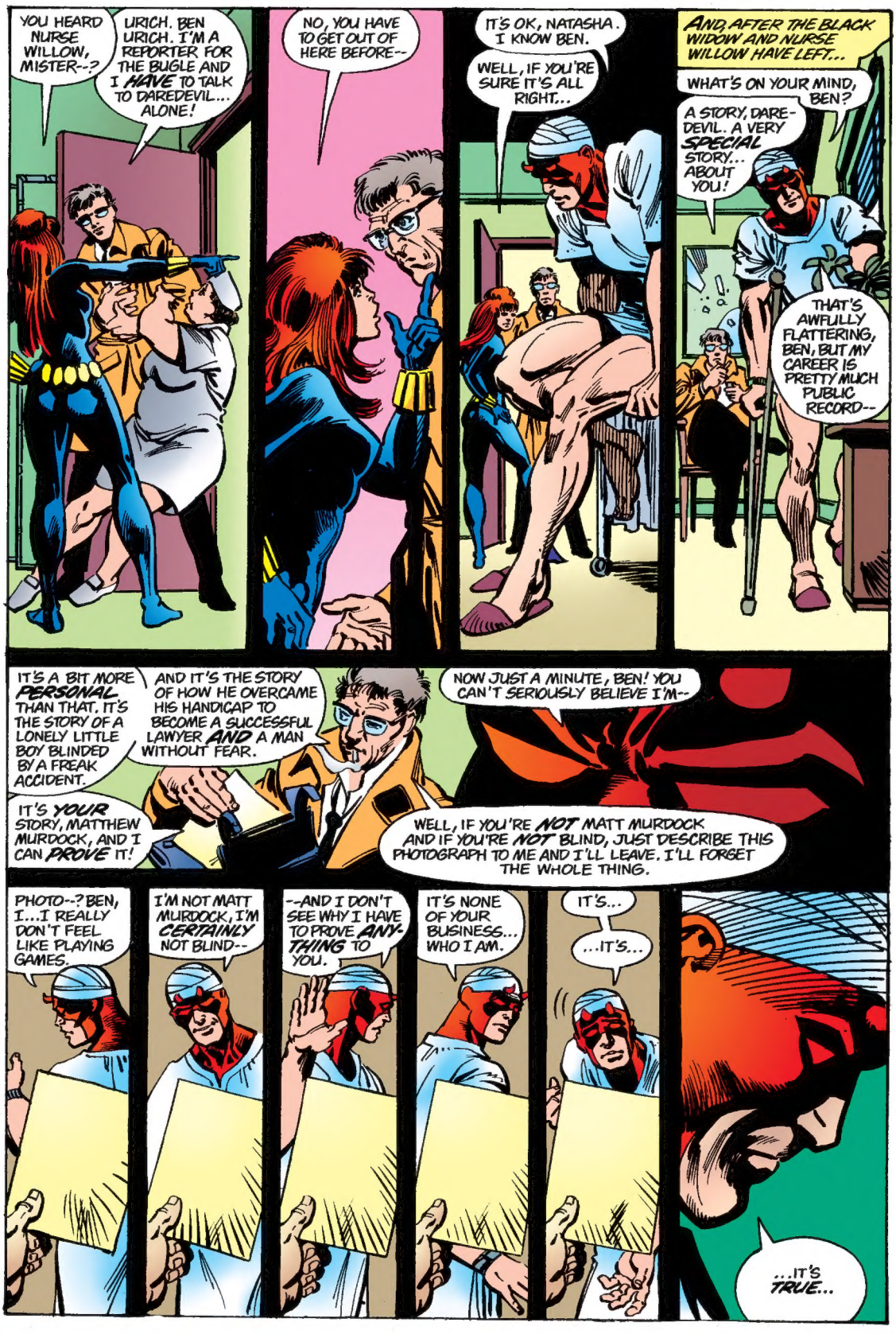
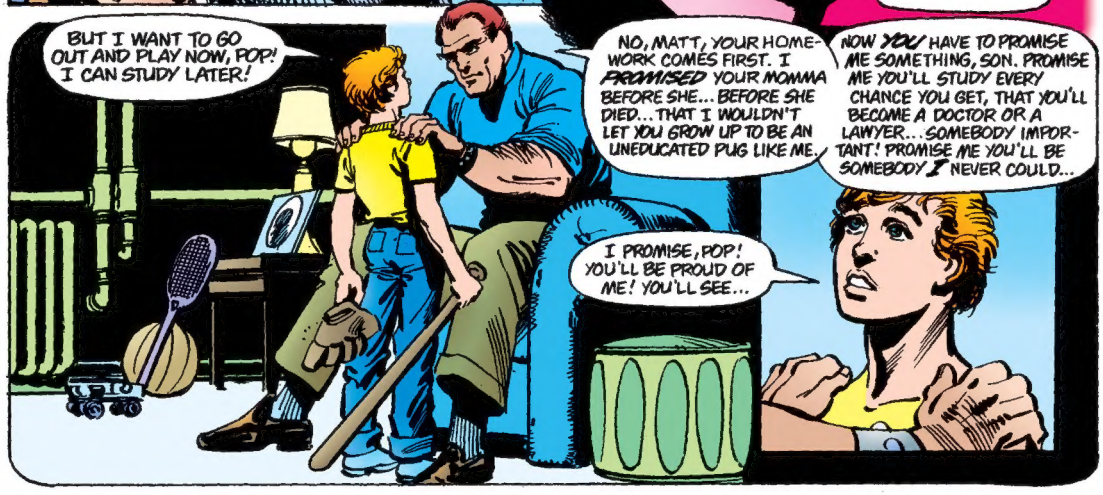

Doctors Hopeful for DD
(AP)Bellevue spokeman, Dr. Nicholas Man, says that Daredevil, the Man Without Fear, has pulled through the critical phase of his
MS. ROMANOFF, IF THERE IS ANYTHING LUKE OR I CAN DO...
LISSEN, WIDDER, I AIN'T AS GOOD AS STRETCH AT MAKIN' FANCY SPEECHES BUT--
WHAT BEN'S TRYING TO SAY IS IF THERE'S ANYTHING WE CAN DO...
'Man Without Fear' off Critical List
Condition Stable, Says Hospital Spokesman...
(AP)Daredevil will be back on the streets in a few minutes
Daredevil Will Leave Hospital Tomorrow
(AP) Daredevil, the Man Wit 'incredible, but true', he is oft indicating a strong upsurge of t going to do nex
THE HULK REALLY DID A NUMBER ON ME, DIDN'T HE?
THAT'S OVER AND DONE WITH, MATT.
ALL THAT MATTERS NOW IS THE FUTURE.
OUR FU--
HEY! YOU CAN'T GO IN THERE!

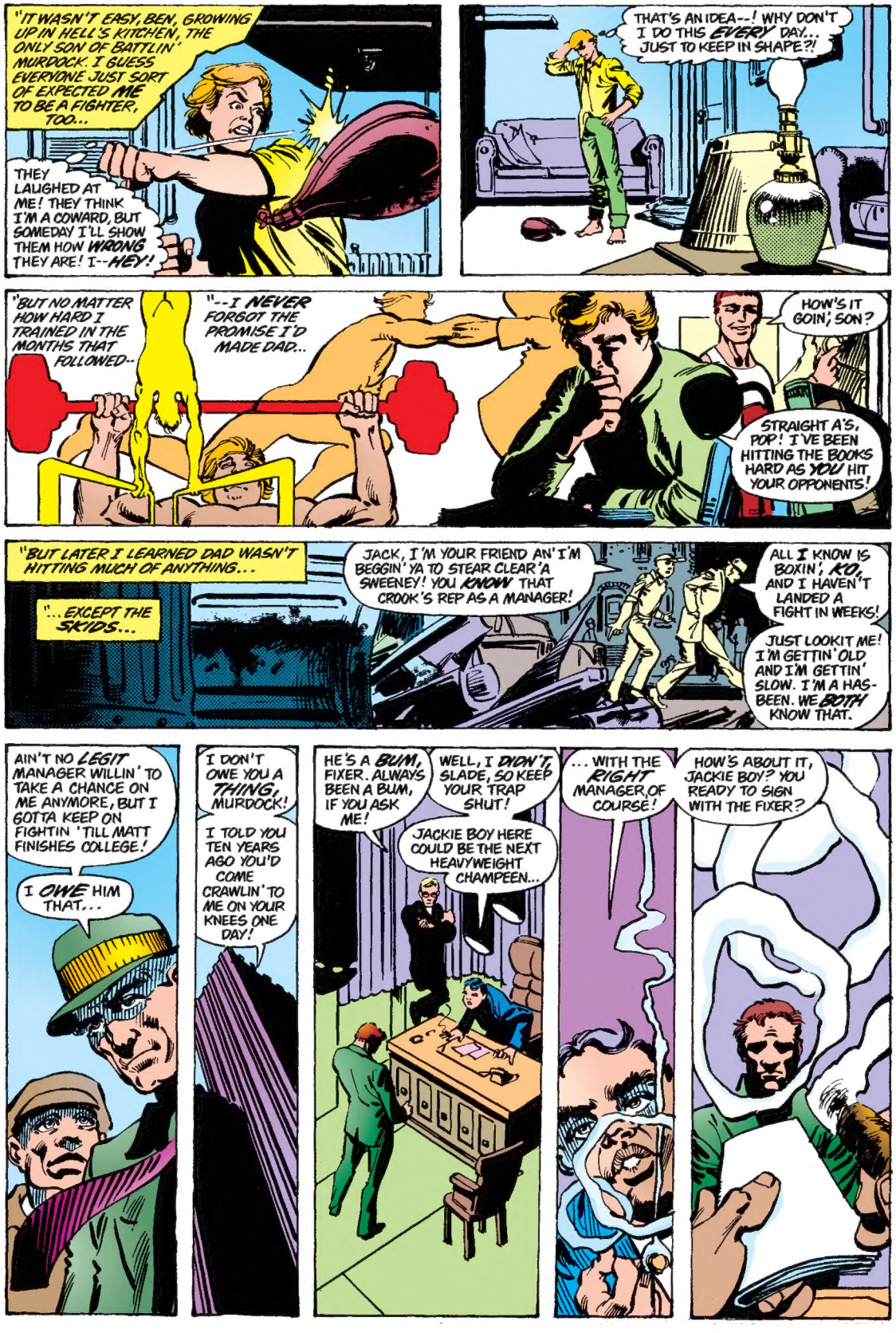

YOU HEARD NURSE WILLOW, MISTER--?
URICH. BEN URICH. I'M A REPORTER FOR THE BUGLE AND I HAVE TO TALK TO DAREDEVIL... ALONE!
NO, YOU HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE--
IT'S OK, NATASHA. I KNOW BEN.
WELL, IF YOU'RE SURE IT'S ALL RIGHT...
AND, AFTER THE BLACK WIDOW AND NURSE WILLOW HAVE LEFT...
WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND, BEN?
A STORY, DAREDEVIL. A VERY SPECIAL STORY... ABOUT YOU!
THAT'S AWFULLY FLATTERING, BEN, BUT MY CAREER IS PRETTY MUCH PUBLIC RECORD--
IT'S A BIT MORE PERSONAL THAN THAT. IT'S THE STORY OF A LONELY LITTLE BOY BLINDED BY A FREAK ACCIDENT.
AND IT'S THE STORY OF HOW HE OVERCAME HIS HANDICAP TO BECOME A SUCCESSFUL LAWYER AND A MAN WITHOUT FEAR.
NOW JUST A MINUTE, BEN! YOU CAN'T SERIOUSLY BELIEVE I'M--
IT'S YOUR STORY, MATTHEW MURDOCK, AND I CAN PROVE IT!
WELL, IF YOU'RE NOT MATT MURDOCK AND IF YOU'RE NOT BLIND, JUST DESCRIBE THIS PHOTOGRAPH TO ME AND I'LL LEAVE. I'LL FORGET THE WHOLE THING.
PHOTO--? BEN, I...I REALLY DON'T FEEL LIKE PLAYING GAMES.
I'M NOT MATT MURDOCK, I'M CERTAINLY NOT BLIND--
--AND I DON'T SEE WHY I HAVE TO PROVE ANYTHING TO YOU.
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS... WHO I AM.
IT'S...
...IT'S...
...IT'S TRUE...

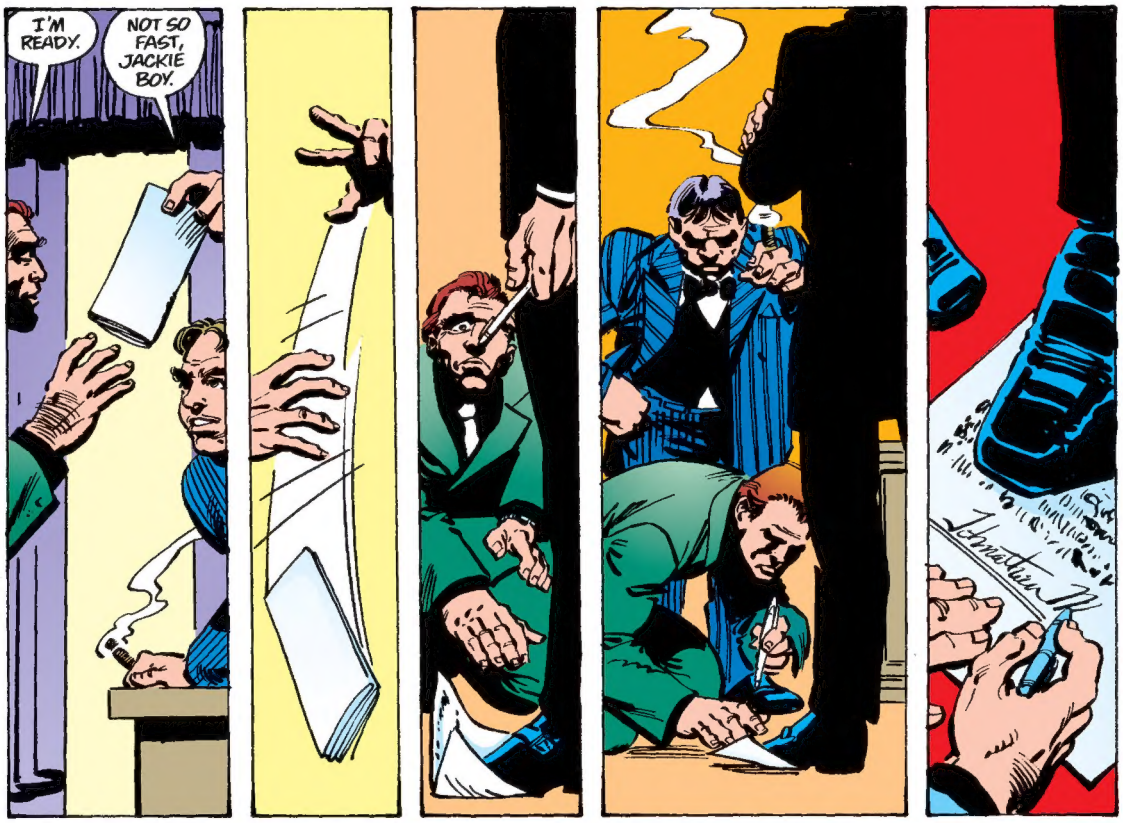
AND THIS MAN, "BATTLIN" JACK MURDOCK--?
DAD. HE WAS THE GREATEST.
I REMEMBER...

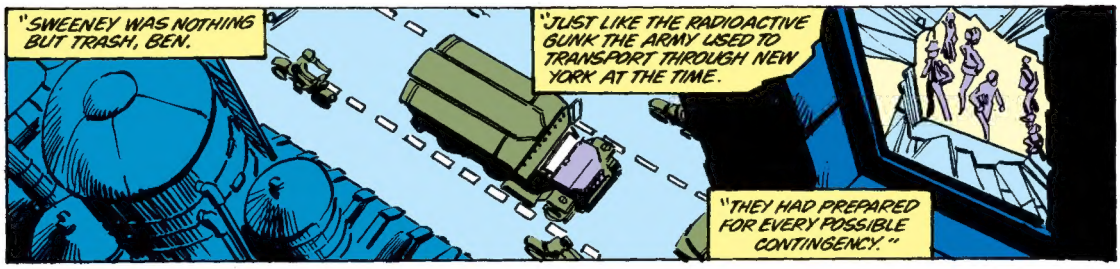

BUT I WANT TO GO OUT AND PLAY NOW, POP! I CAN STUDY LATER!
NO, MATT, YOUR HOMEWORK COMES FIRST. I PROMISED YOUR MOMMA BEFORE SHE... BEFORE SHE DIED... THAT I WOULDN'T LET YOU GROW UP TO BE AN UNEDUCATED PUG LIKE ME.
NOW YOU HAVE TO PROMISE ME SOMETHING, SON. PROMISE ME YOU'LL STUDY EVERY CHANCE YOU GET, THAT YOU'LL BECOME A DOCTOR OR A LAWYER... SOMEBODY IMPORTANT! PROMISE ME YOU'LL BE SOMEBODY I NEVER COULD...
I PROMISE, POP! YOU'LL BE PROUD OF ME! YOU'LL SEE...

WE DID IT! WE WON!
IF ONLY POP WOULD LET ME TRY OUT FOR THE TEAM...
BUT I CAN'T GO AGAINST HIS WISHES-- NOT AFTER ALL HIS SACRIFICES. I'VE GOT TO BE THE SON HE WANTS ME TO BE!
HEY, IT'S "DAREDEVIL" MURDOCK! WHAT'S YOUR HURRY?
GOTTA RUN HOME AN' STUDY SOME MORE 'FORE IT GITS DARK?

HA! HA! HA! GOOD OL' DAREDEVIL... SCARED 'A THE DARK!


"IT WASN'T EASY, BEN, GROWING UP IN HELL'S KITCHEN, THE ONLY SON OF BATTLIN' MURDOCK. I GUESS EVERYONE JUST SORT OF EXPECTED ME TO BE A FIGHTER, TOO...
THEY LAUGHED AT ME! THEY THINK I'M A COWARD, BUT SOMEDAY I'LL SHOW THEM HOW WRONG THEY ARE! I--HEY!
THAT'S AN IDEA--! WHY DON'T I DO THIS EVERY DAY... JUST TO KEEP IN SHAPE?!
"BUT NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRAINED IN THE MONTHS THAT FOLLOWED--
"--I NEVER FORGOT THE PROMISE I'D MADE DAD...
HOW'S IT GOIN', SON?
STRAIGHT A'S, POP! I'VE BEEN HITTING THE BOOKS HARD AS YOU HIT YOUR OPPONENTS!
"BUT LATER I LEARNED DAD WASN'T HITTING MUCH OF ANYTHING...
"...EXCEPT THE SKIDS...
JACK, I'M YOUR FRIEND AN' I'M BEGGIN' YA TO STEAR CLEAR 'A SWEENEY! YOU KNOW THAT CROOK'S REP AS A MANAGER!
ALL I KNOW IS BOXIN', KO, AND I HAVEN'T LANDED A FIGHT IN WEEKS!
JUST LOOKIT ME! I'M GETTIN' OLD AND I'M GETTIN' SLOW. I'M A HAS-BEEN. WE BOTH KNOW THAT.
AIN'T NO LEGIT MANAGER WILLIN' TO TAKE A CHANCE ON ME ANYMORE, BUT I GOTTA KEEP ON FIGHTIN 'TILL MATT FINISHES COLLEGE!
I OWE HIM THAT...
I DON'T OWE YOU A THING, MURDOCK!
I TOLD YOU TEN YEARS AGO YOU'D COME CRAWLIN' TO ME ON YOUR KNEES ONE DAY!
HE'S A BUM, FIXER. ALWAYS BEEN A BUM, IF YOU ASK ME!
WELL, I DIDN'T, SLADE, SO KEEP YOUR TRAP SHUT!
JACKIE BOY HERE COULD BE THE NEXT HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPEEN...
...WITH THE RIGHT MANAGER, OF COURSE!
HOW'S ABOUT IT, JACKIE BOY? YOU READY TO SIGN WITH THE FIXER?


I'M READY.
NOT SO FAST, JACKIE BOY.

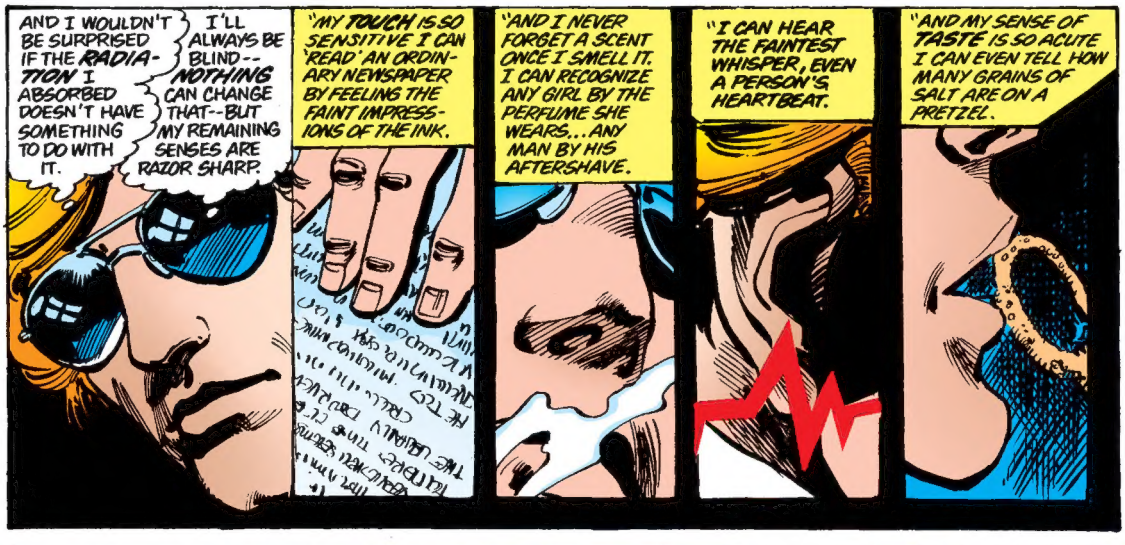

"SWEENEY WAS NOTHING BUT TRASH, BEN.
"JUST LIKE THE RADIOACTIVE GUNK THE ARMY USED TO TRANSPORT THROUGH NEW YORK AT THE TIME.
"THEY HAD PREPARED FOR EVERY POSSIBLE CONTINGENCY."

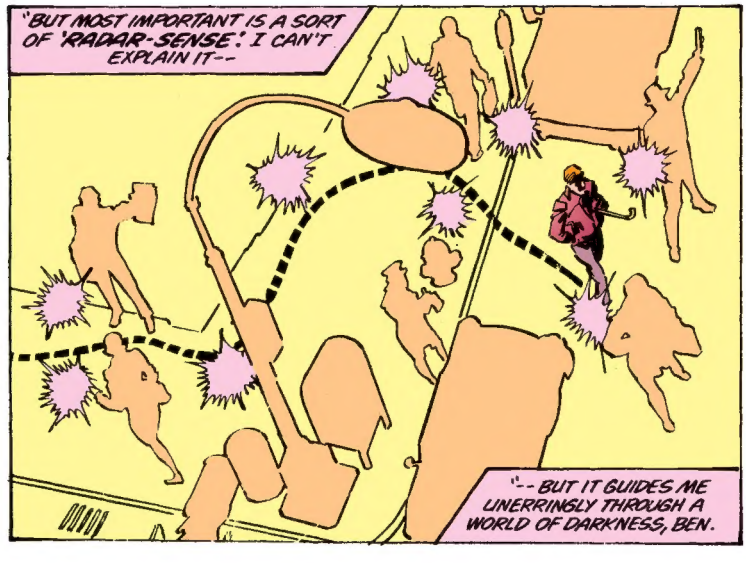
"EXCEPT ONE.
MY RECRUITER DIDN'T TELL ME I'D BE RIDIN' HERD ON NO ATOMIC BOMB!
IT AIN'T A BOMB... ONLY THE STUFF THAT GOES INSIDE...
H-HEY!
WHAT'S WRONG, SARGE?
I... DUNNO. BAD CRAMP IN MY CHEST...
I CAN'T... BREATHE--!
IT HURTS!

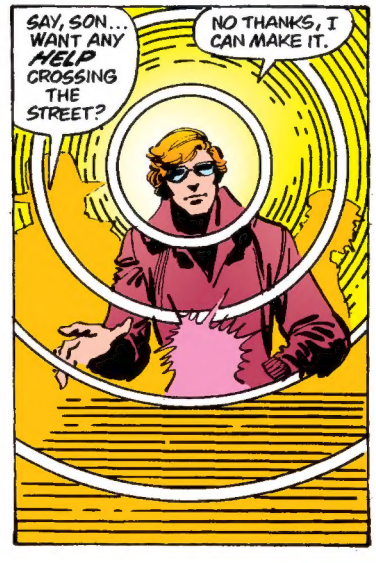
SCREEEEEEEEEE
"I REMEMBER WATCHING IN HORROR AS THE TRUCK SKIDDED OUT OF CONTROL TOWARD A HELPLESS OLD BLIND MAN.
GOTTA... KOFF... GET THIS CANNISTER... KOFF... AWAY FROM THE FLAMES--OR IT'LL BLOW--!
"THE NEXT THING I KNEW I WAS LYING IN THE STREET. I HEARD SOMETHING HEAVY SHATTER RIGHT BESIDE ME...
"... AND WHEN I LOOKED UP...
...I LOOKED INTO THE HEART OF A MAN-MADE SUN.
"IT WAS THE LAST THING I EVER SAW.

"I WOKE TO A HOSPITAL... AND DAD--
SON, THAT WAS A BRAVE THING YOU DID. I JUST HOPE... SOMEDAY... I CAN MAKE YOU AS PROUD OF ME AS I AM OF YOU...
"MY REHABILITATION WAS A SLOW, PAINFUL, AND AT TIMES FRUSTRATING ORDEAL. I DON'T THINK I COULD HAVE MADE IT WITHOUT THE LOVE AND SUPPORT OF PEOPLE LIKE DAD--

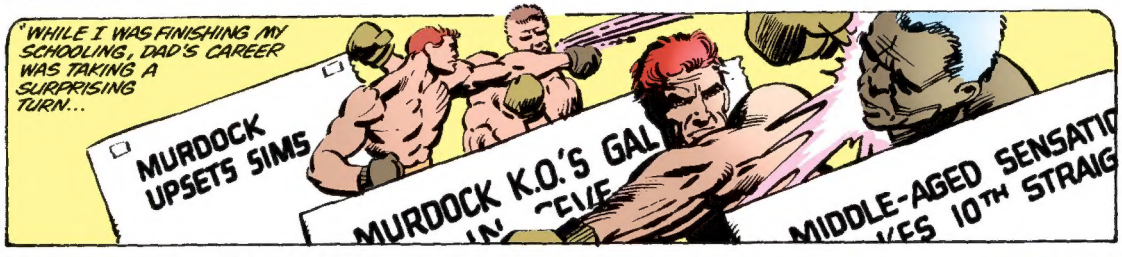
"--OR MY COLLEGE ROOMIE, FOGGY NELSON. THEY NEVER LET ME DOWN. NOT ONCE.
MATT, YOU OL' HOUND DOG, HOW DO YOU DO IT? I STUDY LIKE A DEMON, BUT YOU JUST BREEZE ALONG WITH TOP GRADES!
"AND, BEN, BECAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT, I WAS MORE DETERMINED THEN EVER TO GET MY LAW DEGREE. TO PROVE I COULD STILL BE A HUMAN BEING... DESPITE MY HANDICAP.
POP DESERVES THE CREDIT, FOGGY. HE HAD ME STUDY SO HARD WHEN I WAS YOUNGER THAT IT ALL SEEMS TO COME EASY FOR ME NOW.

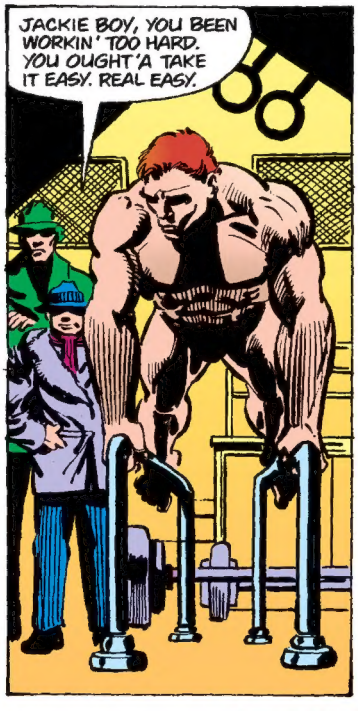

AND I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF THE RADIATION I ABSORBED DOESN'T HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH IT.
I'LL ALWAYS BE BLIND-- NOTHING CAN CHANGE THAT--BUT MY REMAINING SENSES ARE RAZOR SHARP.
"MY TOUCH IS SO SENSITIVE I CAN 'READ' AN ORDINARY NEWSPAPER BY FEELING THE FAINT IMPRESSIONS OF THE INK.
"AND I NEVER FORGET A SCENT ONCE I SMELL IT. I CAN RECOGNIZE ANY GIRL BY THE PERFUME SHE WEARS,.. ANY MAN BY HIS AFTERSHAVE.
"I CAN HEAR THE FAINTEST WHISPER, EVEN A PERSON'S HEARTBEAT.
"AND MY SENSE OF TASTE IS SO ACUTE I CAN EVEN TELL HOW MANY GRAINS OF SALT ARE ON A PRETZEL.


"BUT MOST IMPORTANT IS A SORT OF 'RADAR-SENSE.' I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT--
"--BUT IT GUIDES ME UNERRINGLY THROUGH A WORLD OF DARKNESS, BEN.

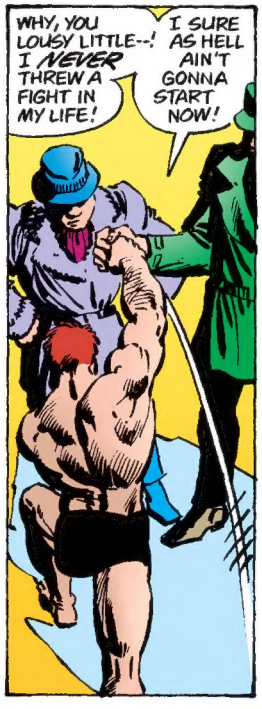

SAY, SON... WANT ANY HELP CROSSING THE STREET?
NO THANKS, I CAN MAKE IT.

BUT, MATT, WHY DID YOU BECOME DAREDEVIL?
I THINK YOU ALREADY KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT, BEN.
JUSTICE.
BLIND JUSTICE.

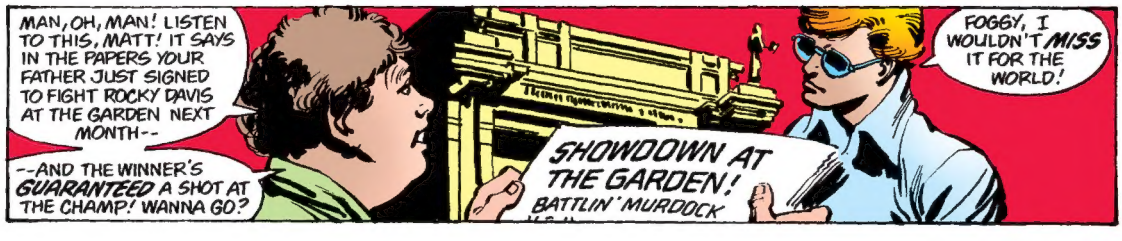

'WHILE I WAS FINISHING MY SCHOOLING, DAD'S CAREER WAS TAKING A SURPRISING TURN...
MURDOCK UPSETS SIMS
MURDOCK K.O.'S GAL
MIDDLE-AGED SENSATIO
10TH STRAIG

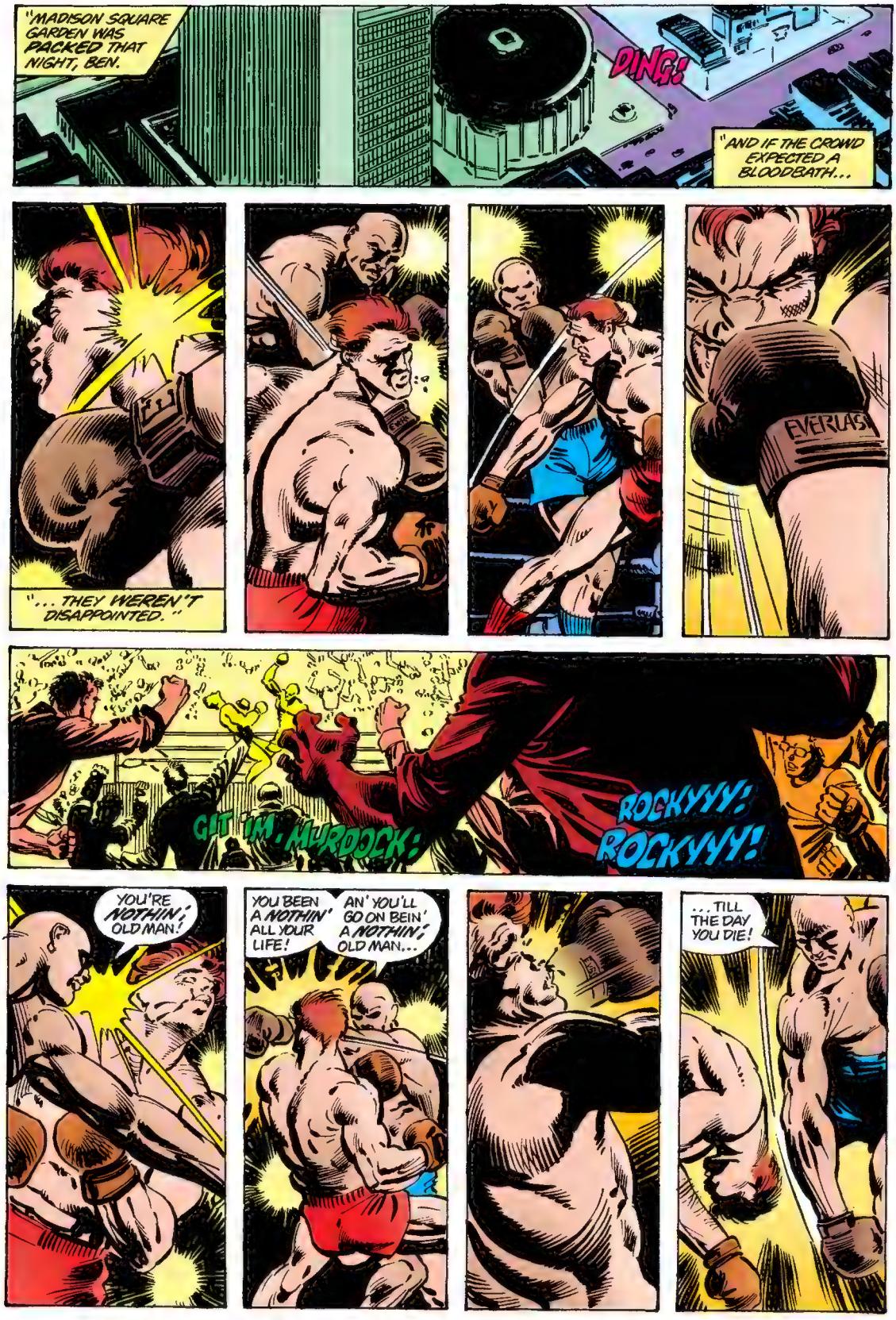

JACKIE BOY, YOU BEEN WORKIN' TOO HARD. YOU OUGHT'A TAKE IT EASY. REAL EASY.

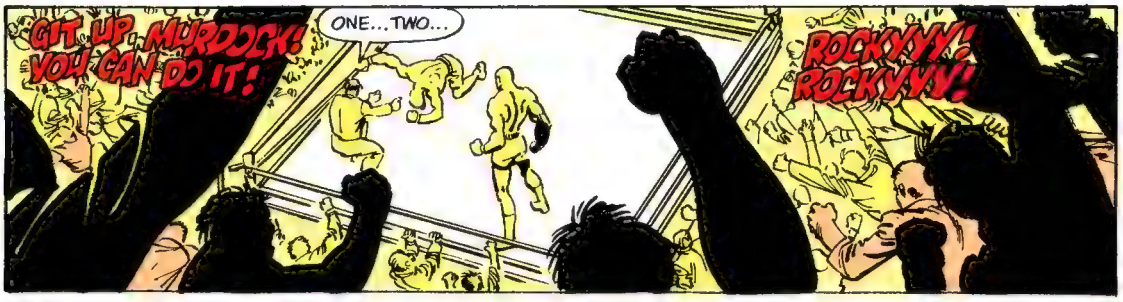
SO EASY YOU LOSE YOUR NEXT FIGHT, KNOW WHAT I MEAN?

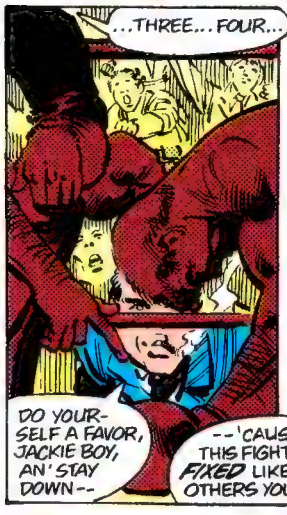

WHY, YOU LOUSY LITTLE--! I NEVER THREW A FIGHT IN MY LIFE!
I SURE AS HELL AIN'T GONNA START NOW!

JACKIE BOY, YOU EITHER TAKE A DIVE...
...OR YOU'RE A DEAD MAN!


MAN, OH, MAN! LISTEN TO THIS, MATT! IT SAYS IN THE PAPERS YOUR FATHER JUST SIGNED TO FIGHT ROCKY DAVIS AT THE GARDEN NEXT MONTH--
--AND THE WINNER'S GUARANTEED A SHOT AT THE CHAMP! WANNA GO?
SHOWDOWN AT THE GARDEN!
BATTLIN' MURDOCK
FOGGY, I WOULDN'T MISS IT FOR THE WORLD!


"MADISON SQUARE GARDEN WAS PACKED THAT NIGHT, BEN.
DING!
"AND IF THE CROWD EXPECTED A BLOODBATH...
"... THEY WEREN'T DISAPPOINTED."
EVERLAS
GIT 'IM, MURDOCK!
ROCKYYY! ROCKYYY!
YOU'RE NOTHIN', OLD MAN!
YOU BEEN A NOTHIN' ALL YOUR LIFE!
AN' YOU'LL GO ON BEIN' A NOTHIN', OLD MAN...
...TILL THE DAY YOU DIE!

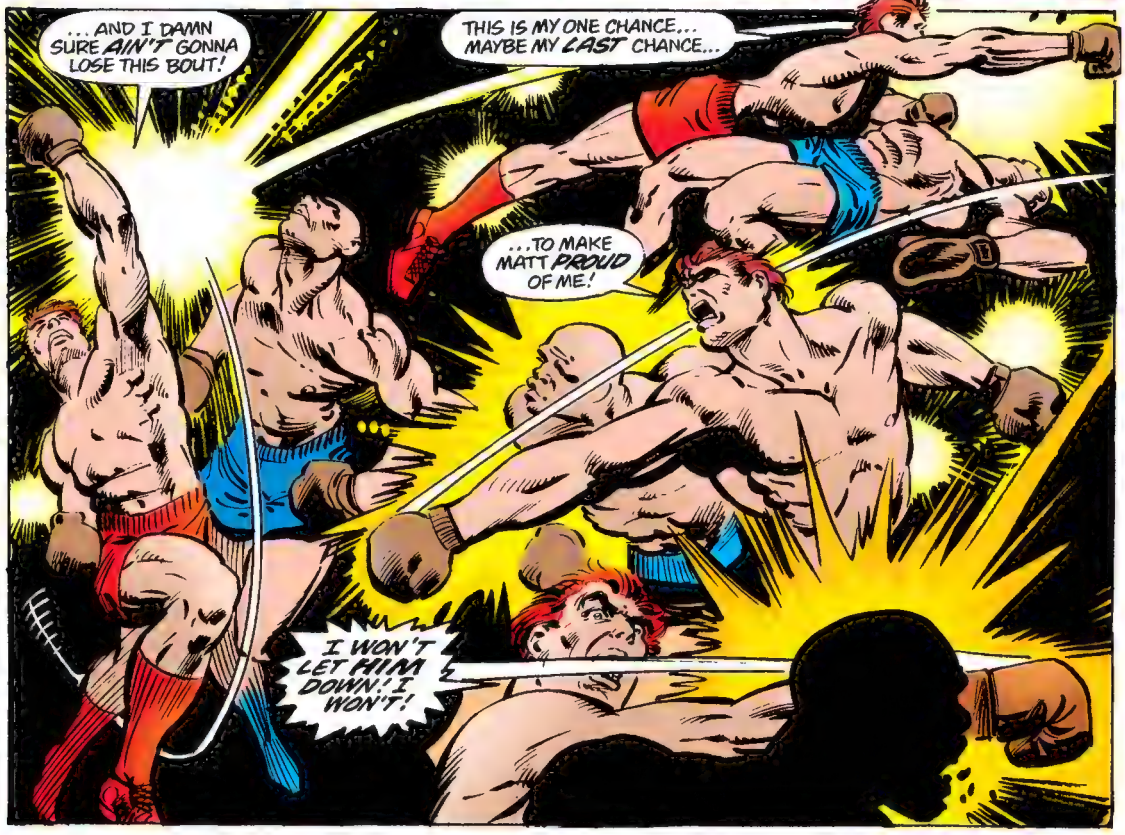

GIT UP, MURDOCK! YOU CAN DO IT!
ONE... TWO...
ROCKY!! ROCKY!!


...THREE... FOUR...
DO YOURSELF A FAVOR, JACKIE BOY, AN' STAY DOWN--

...FIVE... SIX...
--'CAUSE THIS FIGHT AIN'T FIXED LIKE THE OTHERS YOU WON!

...SEVEN... EIGHT...
THAT AIN'T TRUE... AN' EVEN IF IT IS-- YOU CAN GO TO HELL--!

...NINE...
I AIN'T AFRAID 'A YOU...


...AND I DAMN SURE AIN'T GONNA LOSE THIS BOUT!
THIS IS MY ONE CHANCE... MAYBE MY LAST CHANCE...
...TO MAKE MATT PROUD OF ME!
I WON'T LET HIM DOWN! I WON'T!

THIS ONE'S FOR YOU, MATT!

"DAD WON THE FIGHT.
BLAM

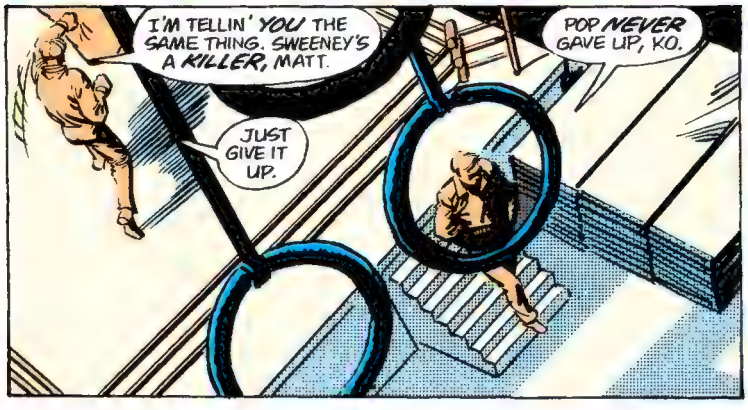
"BUT HE LOST HIS LIFE...
THIS ONE'S FOR YOU, BUM!

EASY, SON--

--THERE'S NOTHIN' YOU CAN DO, MATT. CAN'T NOBODY DO NOTHIN'!

HELL, MATT, YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU FEEL? YOU THINK I DON'T HURT, TOO?
JACK AN' ME, WE WENT BACK A LONG WAYS.

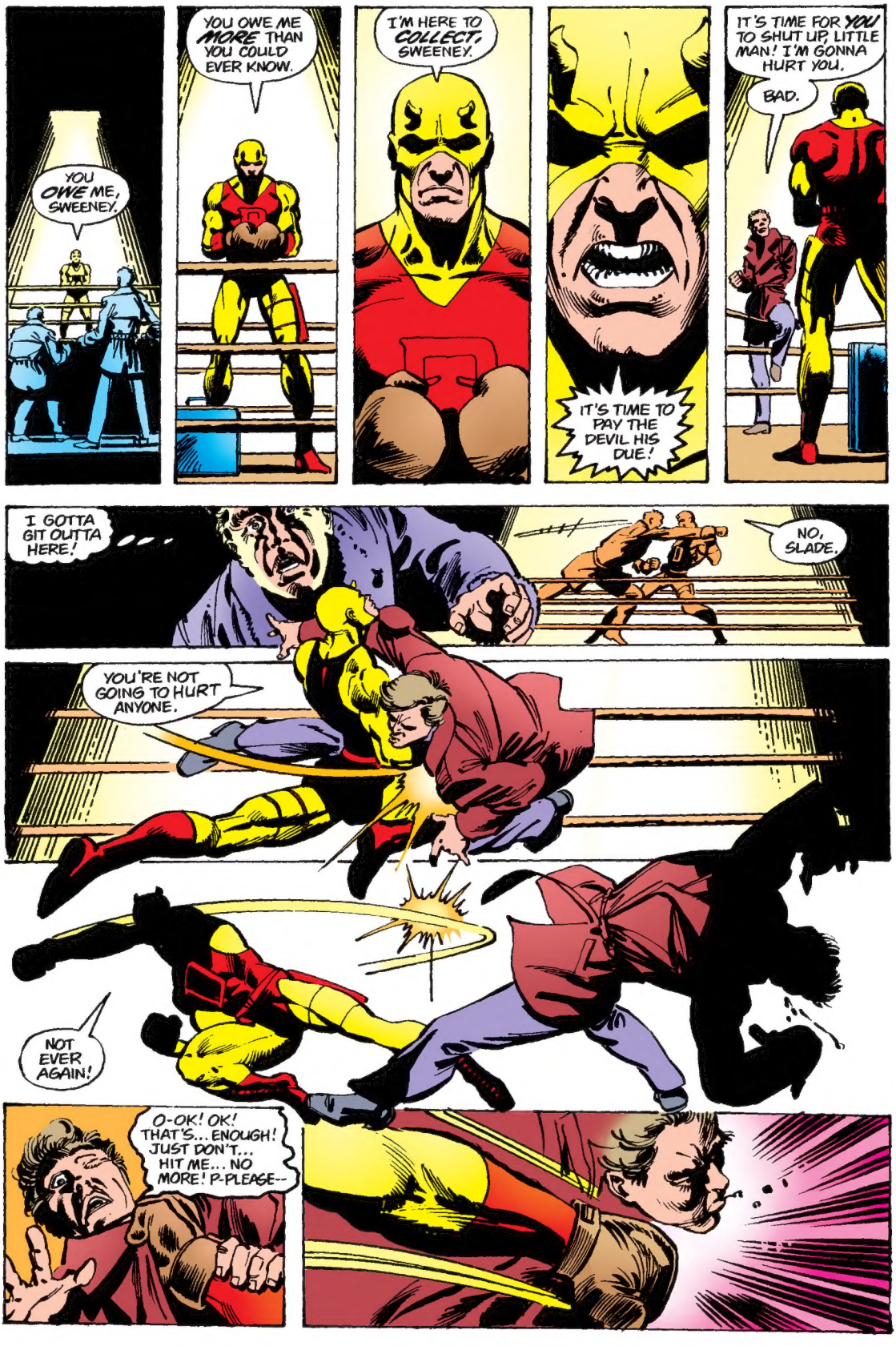
I TOLD 'IM NOT TO MESS WITH SWEENEY.

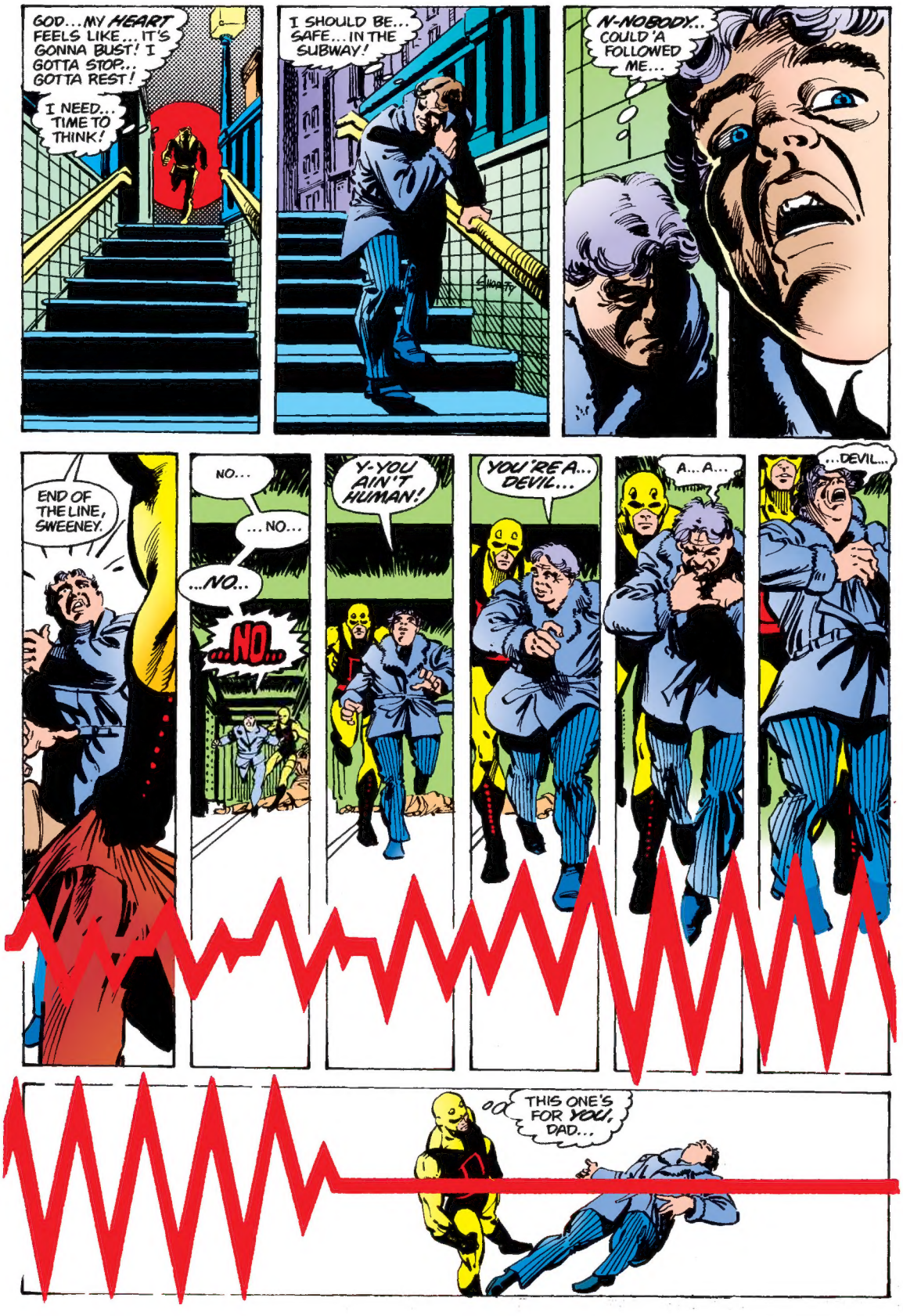

I'M TELLIN' YOU THE SAME THING. SWEENEY'S A KILLER, MATT.
JUST GIVE IT UP.
POP NEVER GAVE UP, KO.

NEITHER WILL I.

LATER...
HURRY AN' DEAL, PORKY, WE AIN'T GOT ALL NIGHT. THE FIXER'LL BE HERE ANY MINNIT WITH OUR PAYOFF!
FOGWELL'S GYM
CUT ME SOME SLACK, STYMIE! I DON'T HURRY FOR NOBODY!
WHO YOU TRYIN' TO KID? WHEN SWEENEY SNAPS HIS FAT LITTLE FINGERS WE ALL--
CRASH!
--JUMP!?
WHO THE--?
FIXER?
NO.
PAL, I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, BUT IF YOU'RE LOOKIN' FOR TROUBLE YOU CAME TO THE RIGHT PL--
THAK
KRAK
WHAT THE--

--DEVIL--?
YOU'RE THROUGH, FIXER!
WH-WHO THE HELL WAS THAT?
BEATS ME.
BUT HE'S GONE. AND SO'S OUR LOOT!
WELL, FIND 'IM, YOU BIG APE! FIND 'IM... THEN WASTE 'IM...
...JUST LIKE YOU WASTED MUR--
HEY--! WHO TURNED OUT THE LIGHTS?
I THINK... HE DID!


YOU OWE ME, SWEENEY.
YOU OWE ME MORE THAN YOU COULD EVER KNOW.
I'M HERE TO COLLECT, SWEENEY.
IT'S TIME TO PAY THE DEVIL HIS DUE!
IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO SHUT UP, LITTLE MAN! I'M GONNA HURT YOU.
BAD.
I GOTTA GIT OUTTA HERE!
NO, SLADE.
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO HURT ANYONE.
NOT EVER AGAIN!
O-OK! OK! THAT'S... ENOUGH! JUST DON'T... HIT ME... NO MORE! P-PLEASE--


GOD... MY HEART FEELS LIKE... IT'S GONNA BUST! I GOTTA STOP... GOTTA REST!
I NEED... TIME TO THINK!
I SHOULD BE... SAFE... IN THE SUBWAY!
N-NOBODY... COULD'A FOLLOWED ME...
END OF THE LINE, SWEENEY.
NO...
...NO...
...NO...
Y-YOU AIN'T HUMAN!
YOU'RE A... DEVIL...
A... A...
...DEVIL...
THIS ONE'S FOR YOU, DAD...

SO THAT'S HOW MY CAREER BEGAN.
BUT, BEN, IT'S AS GOOD AS OVER IF YOU PRINT THIS STORY.
I KNOW THAT. AND I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN TO THIS TOWN.
BUT I'M A REPORTER, MATT, AND I KNOW WHAT THIS STORY MEANS TO ME.
THIS IS PROBABLY THE HARDEST THING I'VE EVER HAD TO DO, BUT...
...THIS ONE'S FOR YOU, MATT...
NEXT: THE ARMS OF THE OCTOPUS!

SPECIAL BONUS PIN-UP!
AN UNPUBLISHED VERSION OF THE COVER TO DAREDEVIL #164 BY MILLER-JANSON!